United Nations A/71/559–S/2016/880

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 October 2016

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 31
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Letter dated 14 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, I am transmitting herewith for your attention the press releases of the Ministry of Defence of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic dated 7 and 11 October 2016 on the situation on the line of contact between the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and the Republic of Azerbaijan (see annex).

I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Zohrab **Mnatsakanyan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 14 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Press release

The recent developments on the line of contact between the armed forces of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic and Azerbaijan indicate that the Azerbaijani side has chosen tactics of incremental and targeted escalation of the situation. This is reflected both in the increased number of ceasefire violations and in the types of weapons used.

The Azerbaijani side, which unleashed the four-day offensive in April 2016 and, under the circumstances of imminent failure, was compelled to request, through the mediation of a third party, the restoration of the ceasefire established by the trilateral agreement of May 1994, has again resorted to provocative actions not only on the ground, but also in the field of propaganda.

Having used different types of weapons in recent days, including the "DShK" machine gun, "Black Arrow" and "Istiglal" sniper rifles and the AGS-17 automatic grenade launcher, today the Azerbaijani side has circulated information about the use of 60-mm mortars by the Nagorno Karabakh side.

The Defence Ministry of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic declares with full responsibility that the disinformation circulated by the Azerbaijani side is nothing but an artless propaganda trick aimed at destabilizing the situation.

7 October 2016

Press release

On 11 October 2016, at about 12.10 p.m., a contractual serviceman of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic Defence Army, Sanasar Grigoryan, born in 1989, was fatally wounded as a result of shots fired from the Azerbaijani side in the eastern section of the line of contact.

An investigation is under way to find out all details of the incident.

The Ministry of Defence of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic shares the deep sorrow of the loss and expresses its support to the family, friends and colleagues of the deceased soldier.

11 October 2016